

## Trenchless Repair: Pipe Bursting



Pipe bursting is a well-established method for trenchless replacement of worn out and undersized gas, water and sewer pipes. An existing pipe is replaced size-for-size or up-sized with a new pipe in the same location. The technique is the most cost effective when there are few lateral connections, when the old pipe is structurally deteriorated, and when additional capacity is needed.

Pipe bursting is a well-established trenchless method that is widely used for the replacement of deteriorated pipes with a new pipe of the same or larger diameter. Pipe bursting is an economic pipe replacement alternative that reduces social disturbance to business and residents when it is compared to the open cut technique or pipeline rehabilitation techniques. Pipe bursting is especially effective if the existing pipe has inadequate capacity and has substantial structural defects preventing other trenchless methods from being utilized. This method can be used advantageously to reduce damage to pavements and disruptions to traffic, hence reducing the social costs associated with pipeline replacement, as well as providing a significantly smaller environmental footprint. The pipe bursting method results in an existing pipe being replaced with a new factory manufactured pipe in the same location that will have the same or larger inner diameter. This method is considered a favorable alternative to other trenchless rehabilitation methods such as CIPP that relines an existing pipe with a liner that conforms to the profile of the existing pipe ID while reducing it by the thickness of the lining material installed. Pipe bursting is often used in comparative analysis with other rehabilitation methods. However, it should be considered a replacement method, as a new pipe is installed.

